



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

***Raised Bill No. 1339***

LCO No. 4711

\*04711\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED )

***AN ACT CONCERNING UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) For the school year  
2       commencing in 2006, and for each school year thereafter, each town, in  
3       cooperation with the local or regional board of education, shall  
4       provide spaces in preschool programs for all four year olds who reside  
5       within the school district under such board's jurisdiction and who are  
6       not participants in the school readiness program established pursuant  
7       to section 10-16p of the general statutes.

8       (b) For the school year commencing in 2008, and for each school  
9       year thereafter, each town, in cooperation with the local or regional  
10      board of education, shall provide spaces in preschool programs for all  
11      three year olds who reside within the school district under such  
12      board's jurisdiction and who are not participants in the school  
13      readiness program established pursuant to section 10-16p of the  
14      general statutes.

15      (c) The Department of Education shall develop standards for such  
16      preschool programs pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this section

17 that shall require the same level of instruction as the school readiness  
18 program established pursuant to section 10-16p of the general statutes,  
19 except that preschool programs provided pursuant to this subsection  
20 shall be at least two and one-half hours per day for at least one  
21 hundred eighty days per year.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To require school districts to offer preschool to all three and four year olds.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*